CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A message distribution center interposed between a source of a short message and a wireless network including an intended recipient of said short message, said message distribution center comprising:

an SMTP protocol communication channel to receive said short message from said source of said short message;

a plurality of subscriber queues each corresponding to a different subscriber in said wireless network, said short message being placed in at least one of said plurality of subscriber queues before delivery to said wireless network; and

a communication channel to communicate said short message to said wireless network.

2. The message distribution center according to claim 1, wherein:

said communication channel with said wireless network is an RMI protocol communication channel.

3. The message distribution center according to claim 1, wherein:

said communication channel with said wireless network is an SMPP protocol communication channel.

4. The message distribution center according to claim 1, wherein:

each of said plurality of subscriber queues operates in a first in-first out fashion.

5. The message distribution center according to claim 1, further comprising:

a predetermined maximum number of short messages in each of said plurality of subscriber queues.

6. The message distribution center according to claim 1, wherein:

said wireless network is a wireless intelligent network (WIN).

7. A method of throttling short messages to subscribers in a wireless network, said method comprising:

forwarding a short message to a wireless network only when a receiving wireless device in said wireless network is known outside said wireless network to be online.

8. The method of throttling short messages to subscribers in a wireless network according to claim 7, further comprising:

automatically deleting an oldest short message in a subscriber queue to make room for a newest received short message.

9. The method of throttling short messages to subscribers in a wireless network according to claim 7, further comprising:

automatically deleting a short message in a subscriber queue after expiration of a predetermined expiration period.

10. The method of throttling short messages to subscribers in a wireless network according to claim 7, further comprising:

preventing short message delivery during a predetermined peak period.

11. The method of throttling short messages to subscribers in a wireless network according to claim 7, wherein:

said wireless network is a wireless intelligent network.

12. Apparatus for throttling short messages to subscribers in a wireless network, comprising:

means for forwarding a short message to a wireless network only when a receiving wireless device in said wireless network is known outside said wireless network to be online.

13. The apparatus for throttling short messages to subscribers in a wireless network according to claim 12, further comprising:

means for automatically deleting an oldest short message in a subscriber queue to make room for a newest received short message.

14. The apparatus for throttling short messages to subscribers in a wireless network according to claim 12, further comprising:

means for automatically deleting a short message in a subscriber queue after expiration of a predetermined expiration period.

15. The apparatus for throttling short messages to subscribers in a wireless network according to claim 12, further comprising:

means for preventing short message delivery during a predetermined peak period.

16. The apparatus for throttling short messages to subscribers in a wireless network according to claim 12, wherein:

said wireless network is a wireless intelligent network.